

PARSIPPANY-TROY HILL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

WHAT IS A BOARD MEETING?

It is a meeting of your school district for the transaction of the business of the district. It must be conducted in a specified manner because laws and regulations require certain procedures. Board members, as elected State officials, must make sure that they take all the actions required of them at each meeting. Board of Education Meetings are regularly held on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm and executive session at 6:00 pm.

WHO ARE THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS?

School Board members are unpaid officials elected by qualified voters. They are empowered by the state to govern the public schools at the local level. Board members have no legal status except when sitting with other Board members in a legally constituted meeting. Board members are elected to three-year terms in annual school elections, which occur in November. The Board president and vice president are elected annually by members of the Board of Education at the re-organization meeting in January.

Mr. Timothy Berrios, President (2023)
Mrs. Judy Mayer, Vice-President (2024)
Mrs. Sheethal Abraham (2024)
Mrs. Alison Cogan (2022)
Mr. Andrew Choffo (2022)
Mr. Matthew DeVitto (2023)
Mrs. Susy Golderer (2024)
Mrs. Deborah Orme (2023)
Mrs. Kendra Von Achen (2022)

WHO ARE THE OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT?

The Superintendent of Schools, an ex-officio member of the Board, and the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary are seated with members of the Board of Education at public meetings. These school officials advise the Board of Education members concerning school and educational issues. They do not vote on matters before the Board of Education. In addition, the Board Attorney sits with the Board to oversee the meeting.

WHAT IS THE AGENDA/SUPERINTENDENT'S BULLETIN?

The Agenda/Superintendent's Bulletin is the order of business for the meeting. Based on Board policy and procedures, the agenda allows for the efficient conduct of the Board's business. It also provides for public information and general information on the issues, as well as progress and accomplishments within the district. Superintendent's Bulletin for the meetings can be found here: https://www.pthsd.k12.nj.us/b_o_e/superintendent_bulletins

WHEN MAY THE PUBLIC SPEAK AT MEETINGS?

Comments on all matters are reserved for later in the meeting at the Hearing from the Public. When recognized by the Board President, one should come to the podium, sign into the book, state his/her name and address for the record, keep comments or statements to no more than three minutes. There are times at the beginning of the meeting after a presentation comments from the public regarding the presentation only may be addressed to the Board President. The Board of Education welcomes and encourages comments from members of the community within an appropriate time limit. **Responses may be provided when all members of the public have expressed their views and the Public Session has been closed.**

WHAT ARE OPEN AND CLOSED (PRIVATE) SESSIONS?

All meetings of the Board of Education will be open to the public unless the matter under consideration falls under one of the categories specifically exempted under statute, i.e., personnel, lawsuits, student matters or contract negotiations. Exempt matters may only be discussed in closed session, but final action must be taken at a public session.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A WORK SESSION AND A REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING?

Work sessions are planning meetings where the Board receives reports and information regarding the management of the school district from the Superintendent. Agendas and supporting documents are sent to the Board Members in advance of the meeting dates to allow the Board to study and review the information. During work sessions Board members have the opportunity to study and discuss specific topics in depth. Work sessions are open to the public. Action may be taken at a work session. The Board votes at Regular Public Meetings. During the Public Meeting it may appear as if some items are being voted upon with little or no discussion. However, this is not usually the case, since items may have been discussed at length at a committee meeting, work or executive session.

HOW CAN YOU CONTACT THE PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS BOARD OF EDUCATION?

The School Board welcomes your opinions and communications. Correspondence may be addressed to:

Parsippany-Troy Hills Board of Education
292 Parsippany Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Or

Group email - Board@pthsd.net